

Col. Ellsworths<sup>324</sup> 1100 Zouaves, (firemen) reached here to-night and are quartered within three doors from my room. I am afraid the enemy is approaching too closely.

I hope every effort will be made to raise up a great Southern Army that will at a single blow in the field annihilate one Northern Army. There is no use of consuming time in beseiging Fortress Monroe; the contest must be fought out in the open field, and our arrangements must be so perfect that success will be certain. I must add also that the North is sending out vast bodies of men and we must meet them with equal bodies. As yet, I notice they have no cavalry. In that arm of an army they are certainly deficient.

You must excuse the length of my letter and its apparent rambling character. I cannot tell in what particular you need information, and I have therefore probably repeated what you already know.

I shall remain here a few days longer, probably a week or more. If you think I can be of any use to you I will remain longer. I have a good many republican friends, and I feel no apprehensions as to my personal safety. I shall be glad to hear from you again through the same channel of communication as before.

I suppose there was some money in the Charlotte mint when it was seized by you. Will you allow the fund to be drawn upon to pay debts of the U.S. due to the citizens of N.C.? The census takers of N.C. have only received one half the amount due them, and they will get no more unless it can be paid out of funds taken by the State. If you will permit the money to be used in this way, I think I can arrange to have this class of the public creditors paid. Please inform me on this matter.

*Thomas Sparrow<sup>325</sup> to John W. Ellis.*

G.P.

May 2nd 1861.

Washington N.C.

I made a tender of the services of my company in writing

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<sup>324</sup>Ephraim E. Ellsworth (1837-1861), lawyer organizer of a regiment of 1,000 men from the firemen of New York, 1861, known as the New York Fire Zouaves; made Colonel of this regiment. *National Cyclopaedia*, IV, 166.

<sup>325</sup>Thomas Sparrow, from Beaufort County, Major, Tenth Regiment, North Carolina Artillery. *Clark, North Carolina Regiment*, I, 525.